

Appln. No. 10/650,662

Amendment in Reply to the Final Office action dated Oct. 20, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently amended): For use with a marine terminal crane at a dockside pier, a system for transferring loaded containers to a ship alongside of said dockside pier by use of motorized vehicles, comprising: a platform positioned on the dockside pier in underlying relation to the crane onto which each of the containers is transported by one of the motorized vehicles; reception means tables on the platform for ~~receiving each~~ onto which of the vehicles with the container thereon are received in said underlying relation to the crane at the dockside pier; positioning actuator means for displacement of each of the reception tables ~~means on the platform~~ relative to the crane in two 90° related directions relative to the platform; and sensing means mounted on the platform for ~~locationally detecting~~ locational detection of movement of the containers on the vehicles relative to the crane and ~~directionally~~ controlling said displacement of the reception tables ~~means~~ with the containers thereon ~~by positioning~~ into operative alignment ~~below~~ with the crane therebelow to accommodate said transferring of the containers by the crane from the reception means on the platform to the ship.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The system as defined in claim 1, including: a wheeled frame on which the reception tables are ~~means is~~ mounted; and ramp means hingedly connected to the frame for drive on of the vehicles with the container onto the platform and departure with the containers unloaded therefrom.

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Claim 3 (Currently amended): The system as defined in claim 2, wherein said positioning means includes: pairs of ball screw drive devices connected to the reception tables means to impart said displacement thereto in the two 90° related directions.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The system as defined in claim 3, wherein said sensing means includes: laterally spaced pairs of support plates fixed to the wheeled frame; and sensor elements mounted on said plates and interconnected to form a sensing grid operatively connected to the ball screw drive devices through which said locational detection of said movement of the containers is effected.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The system as defined in claim 1, wherein said sensing means includes: laterally spaced pairs of support plates; and sensor elements mounted on said plates and interconnected to form a sensing grid through which said locational detection of said movement of the container is effected.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The system as defined in claim 1, wherein said positioning means includes: pairs of ball screw drive devices connected to the reception tables means to impart said displacement thereto in the two 90° related directions.

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Claim 7 (Currently amended): The system as defined in claim 6, wherein said sensing means includes: laterally spaced pairs of support plates; and sensor elements mounted on said plates and interconnected to form a sensing grid connected to the ball screw drive devices through which said locational detection of said movement of the containers is effected.